ELECTRO-TELEGRAPHIC.—We are informed, says the Glasgow *Reformer's Gazette*, that the committee relative to the introduction of telegraphic announcements into the Royal Exchange news-room, put themselves, at the request of the Directors, into communication with the Telegraph Company, and after a lengthy correspondence, have failed in eliciting from the company any terms upon which a satisfactory agreement could be based. The committee's report thus concludes:—"There appears, therefore, no alternative but to leave the company to transmit what intelligence they please, when it suits them, until informed by experience of the wants of the community,"—a remark entirely in the spirit of our own lengthened expostulation with Mr. Ricardo, the Chairman, in response to his letter to us and our contemporaries, on a paragraph previously quoted by the latter from THE BUILDER. Sorry we are, however, to see that an "experience" most expensive to the Company itself, alone seems capable of opening the eyes of its directors to its own best interests.

METROPOLITAN SEWERS' COMMISSION.—An adjourned special meeting was held on Friday last, when, after some further difficulty and delay, as on the previous day of adjournment, in the formation of a court, a quorum was at length got together, consisting of Sir John Burgoyne, Sir H. de la Beche, Captain Dawson, R.E., Captain Veitch, R.E., Captain Harness, R.E., Mr. R. Stephenson, M.P., Mr. Peto, M.P., Mr. Hawes, Mr. Lawes, and Mr. P. Hardwick,—Sir J. Burgoyne in the chair, when Mr. F. Foster was appointed engineer to the commission at a salary of 1,300*l.* per annum, with an addition of 200*l.* per annum for cab hire.

BRISTOL FINE-ART ACADEMY.—The annual meeting of this institution was held on the 10th inst., at the Academy's-rooms, 19, St. Augustine's-parade, Mr. J. S. Harford in the chair, when the meeting, which was not very numerous, was addressed by the chairman, who read the committee's report, and afterwards by Mr. Heath Tucker (secretary), Mr. Miles, M.P., Dr. Budd, Sir Walter James, and Mr. R. Bright.

ARTISTS' CONVERSAZIONE.—The first meeting for the present session will be held at the Freemasons' Tavern, on Saturday, the 26th instant.

PENZANCE SERPENTINE MARBLE WORKS. We understand that the first malachite vase ever made in England was last week executed at this establishment. The stone, which was imported from South Australia, is of a bright green colour, and splendidly variegated.—*Penzance Journal.*

CHEAP ART-EXHIBITION.—During the last month, no fewer than 13,000 persons have availed themselves of the opportunity afforded them of visiting the exhibition of paintings at Liverpool, at 2d. each for adults, and 1d. for children.

PUBLIC NECESSARIES.—Do pray again call the attention of builders and municipal authorities to the great want of public urinals in London. The necessity is sufficiently indicated by the indecent inscriptions which everywhere affront our eyes, "to commit no nuisance."—A STRANGER IN LONDON.

FIRE FROM CHURCH FLUES.—Considerable damage has been done to West Derby Church at Liverpool, by an overheating of the flues. The cost of repairing the gallery staircase, &c., will not be less, it is said, than 200*l.*

COMBUSTION.—A specification has been enrolled, according to the *Mechanics' Magazine*, by Mr. John Brown, of Great Portland-street, for a patent to be taken out for assisting combustion in stoves or grates, by placing in the fire a hollow truncated reticulated cone, against the sides of which the fuel rests. To prevent cooking utensils from resting on the top of the cone, it is fitted with a cover having points projecting upwards.

TENDERS

For four houses to be built at Peterham, for Mr. Michael Hall, viz.:—

W. Long	£1,881
Jas. Cain	1,300
W. Sweet	1,272
Thos. Long and Son	1,199

MEETINGS OF SCIENTIFIC BODIES

To be held during the ensuing week.

MONDAY, Jan. 21.—Institution of Architects, 8 p.m.
TUESDAY, 22.—Institution of Civil Engineers, 8 p.m.
WEDNESDAY, 23.—Society of Arts, 8 p.m.
THURSDAY, 24.—Royal Society, 8½ p.m.; Society of Antiquaries, 8 p.m.; Royal Academy, 8 p.m.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

"*Drain Pipe Traps.*"—With reference to form of trap, by "J. L.," in recent number, three manufacturers have informed us that they have for a long time past made such.

"*To Blast Sand Stone.*"—"J. C." asks to be told "the best mode of blasting sand-stone rocks, when bounded on every side, to the depth of about seven yards."

"J. N. H.," "J. R.," "Constant Reader," "L. L. L.," "F. and O." (too late), "Clapton Church" (accidentally delayed), "R. S.," "Quondam Sufferer," "*Le Fen.*" "T. B.," "T. M. R." (we scarcely know where to look for the drawing now, and have the impression it was returned), "Monitor," "Mr. F.," "C. H.," "Toughbeard" (Marlborough-street), "Watchman" (shall appear), "S. U. C. L." (be so kind as to inclose the sketches to us; they shall be safely returned), "J. J. L.," "T. S.," "T. F.," "G. J. K.," "W. C. T.," "W. C." (Bromley), "F. W. F.," "An Artist," "A Plain Man," "G. W.," "J. W.," "J. A. W.," "J. H." (from A to B, so as to bring flower opposite centre of chimney breast), "Quondam" (ought to have heard from us, and shall), "J. M. K." "E. O. G.," "J. H.," "M. R." (we cannot refer our readers to one of whom we know nothing), "S. G." (an account of the French decimal system will be found at p. 2, vol. vi., of THE BUILDER), "S. T. A.," "W. W.," "W. H.," "W. N.," "Anti-Twin" (we do not see the object of the inquiry,—tell us), "Visitor," "Surveyor."

NOTICE.—All communications respecting *advertisements* should be addressed to the "Publisher," and not to the "Editor:" all other communications should be addressed to the EDITOR, and *not* to the Publisher.

"*Books and Addresses.*"—We have not time to point out books or find addresses.

ADVERTISEMENTS.

ARCHITECTS', BUILDERS', and GENERAL FIRE and LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY, 69, Lombard-street, London.

CHAIRMAN, SYDNEY SMIRKE, Esq., A.R.A.

TRUSTEES.

T. L. Donaldson, Esq. | A. Salvin, Esq., F.S.A.
S. Grimsdell, Esq. | G. Smith, Esq., F.S.A.

The rates for both Fire and Life Insurances are as low as can with safety be taken. Them for Life Insurance may be paid either yearly, half-yearly, or quarterly; one-half the annual premium may be left unpaid for seven years, or one-third to the end of life. Thus large sums may be insured at the smallest present outlay.

Prospectuses, forms of proposals, &c., may be had at the Office, 69, Lombard-street, or of the agents

JOHN REDDIHILL, MANAGER.

SCOTTISH EQUITABLE LIFE ASSURANCE SOCIETY, for MUTUAL ASSURANCE. Incorporated by Act of Parliament. Established in 1831. Founded on the Model of the "London Equitable."

LONDON OFFICE, 61 A, MOORGATE-STREET.

PRESIDENT. JOSEPH LAURIE, M.D., 13, Lower Berkeley-street, Portman-square. | SECRETARY. CHARLES LEVER, Esq., 1, Frederick place, Old Jewry.

HEAD OFFICE, 36, ST. ANDREW-SQUARE, EDINBURGH.

The EXISTING ASSURANCES amount to upwards of Three Millions sterling.

The ANNUAL REVENUE amounts to One Hundred and Fourteen Thousand Pounds.

The ACCUMULATED FUND is nearly Half a Million sterling.

The WHOLE PROFITS are allocated amongst the Policy-holders every three years.

A Triennial Allocation will take place at 1st March, 1856.

A Policy of 1,000*l.* effected on 1st March, 1853, and becoming a claim before 1st March, 1856, will have incurred by those additions to FOURTEEN HUNDRED and TWENTY-NINE POUNDS, and other policies in proportion.

Table of rates and form of proposal may be had on application at the Society's Office, 61 A, Moorgate-street, City.

WILLIAM COOK, Agent.

UNITED TRADES and GENERAL LIFE and FIRE ASSURANCE ASSOCIATION provisionally registered.—CAPITAL, 100,000*l.* in 10,000 Shares of 10*l.* each, with power to increase the same to 500,000*l.* Deposit, 1*s.* per share; 10*s.* to be paid on complete registration. No call to exceed 10*s.* Three months' notice to be given of each call.—Temporary Offices, 67, Charlotte-street, Fitzroy-square, London.

The objects of this Association are to adapt to the wants and bring within the means of the trading and industrious classes, by special provisions made for their convenience, the advantages of Life and Fire Assurance, and to invest its funds in a beneficial manner, by loans advanced to the share and policy holders. Parties desirous of promoting the interests and welfare of the working classes, and, at the same time, of realising a profitable return for their capital, are invited to support the Association.

Applications for shares, prospectuses, &c., may be addressed to the Offices, or to H. EMPSON, Esq., Solicitor, 7, Buckleersbury, City.—By order,

JOSEPH REEVE, Secretary.

PROVIDENT and FRIENDLY SOCIETY for BUILDING and ENGINEERING WORKMEN.—A Meeting of Architects, Engineers, Builders, Foremen, and Friends interested in the object, will take place in the Lower room, Exeter Hall, on FRIDAY EVENING, 25th instant, at half-past Seven punctually.—Admission by tickets only, which may be obtained gratis of Mr. G. WALES, Hon. Sec., 17, St. Helen's-place, Bishopsgate-street.

LIGHTERAGE.—To Saw-Mill Proprietors, Timber, Slate, and Stone Merchants, or others, requiring Lighterage.—The Advertiser having a large number of Barges, is willing to undertake LIGHTERAGE at prices that defy competition.—Address, CHARLES STRUTTON, 24, Commercial-road, Lambeth; and Trinity-street, Lower Rotherhithe.

TO PROPRIETORS OF WATER-SIDE PREMISES.

JOHN KNIGHT and SON, Contractors and Pile Drivers, Salmon's-lane, Limehouse, having a large stock of engines and gear for driving and sawing timbers below water, are enabled to CONSTRUCT or REPAIR WHARVES and RIVER-SIDE PROPERTY in the best and most economical manner.

SNOXELL'S PATENT SAFETY REVOLVING WOOD SHUTTERS. Manufactory, 98, REGENT-STREET and 18, CHANCERY-LANE. Patent sealed on the 6th day of February, 1846, for Fourteen Years, for Improvements in Revolving Shutters of WOOD and IRON, consisting of Six Methods of Raising and Lowering Shutters, without Machinery, and Two for Hinging and Sheathing the Edges of Wood Laths with Iron.—The Patentee having fitted up some hundreds, will feel pleased in forwarding the Testimonials of Architects, Principals of large Establishments, and others, having them now in use which fully guarantee the Patentee in stating they are beyond dispute superior to any other Revolving Shutter for durability, security, and simplicity, without the use of cog-wheel worm and screw gear, or any other complicated machinery employed by other makers.

REDUCED PRICES.—EDWARD SIMMS (late William Chenery), of Willow-road, Pimlico Basin, begs to acquaint Builders and the Trade that he has now on hand, at his Manufactory (the first of its kind ever established), a very large Assortment of Dry and Well-seasoned OAK and DEAL PREPARED FLOORING BOARDS and MATCH BOARDING of all sorts, from ⅞ inch to 1½ inch thick, planed to a parallel width and thickness, and at greatly Reduced Prices. Also, Timber, Deals, Oak Planks, Scantlings, Sash Bills, Mouldings prepared by Machinery, Laths, &c.—Apply at E. SIMMS's (late W. Chenery) Flooring Manufactory, Willow-road, Pimlico Basin.

FLOORING.—ALFRED ROSLING begs to inform his customers and the trade generally, that he has again very materially REDUCED the PRICES of his DRY FLOOR BOARDS, of which he has in stock an extensive assortment. To purchasers of a quantity of freshly prepared boards it is able to offer a great reduction upon his ex-remuneration, to avoid the expense of piling away in the drying sheds. Mouldings in great variety, and prepared in a very superior manner.—South-wark-bridge Wharf, Bankside, October, 1848.

THOMAS ADAMS, Mahogany and Timber Merchant, Bermondsey New-road, Deptford-n., near the Birchbeyer Arms, is SELLING SEASONED FLOORING at LESS PRICES THAN ANY ADVERTISED, also matched boards and mouldings prepared from the very best material and in a superior manner. Cut deals and battens of every dimensions; mahogany, cedar, rosewood, wainscot elm, beech, oak, &c.; panels, oak, and birch; white wrought ditto. All sawn and prepared goods except timber delivered free of expense. Sawing charged at mill prices. Very extensive drying-sheds.

N.B. English timber taken in exchange for foreign.

PRESENT PRICES of SEASONED FLOORING, prepared by improved Machinery. Net cash.

1¼ in. yellow, per sq.	22s. 6d.	1¼ in. spruce, per sq.	12s. 6d.
1 " " "	17s. 6d.	1 " " "	11s. 6d.
1 " " "	16s. 6d.	1 " " "	10s. 6d.

Widths measured after being wrought. Quantities not less than thirty squares delivered within 5 miles free.

SAMUEL SHURMUR and CO., Timber Merchants, Sawing and Planing Mills, King's-road, Chelsea.

MUIR'S PATENT — PLANING MACHINE.

SAW MILLS, GILLINGHAM-STREET, PIMLICO.

TIMBER of any size, PLANK, DEALS, and BATTENS, &c., Sawn on the most approved principle Boards, &c., Prepared, Matched, and Grooved, by Muir's Patent Machinery. The Mills have all the advantages of navigation and water-carriage, being connected with the Thames by the Grosvenor Canal. Goods listened from the docks and carted home free of charge.

Address to HENRY SOUTHAM,
Saw Mills, Gillingham-street, Pimlico.

N.B. Estimates given for Sawing and Planing.

GENERAL WOOD-CUTTING COMPANY.—SAWING, PLANING, AND MOULDING MILLS, Belvedere-road, Lambeth, between the Suspension and Waterloo Bridges. SAWING and PLANING in all their branches executed with the greatest despatch and punctuality. A large Stock of seasoned and beautifully WORKED MOULDINGS, consisting of upwards of two different patterns kept constantly on hand; also an extensive assortment of dry prepared FLOORING BOARDS, of all qualities and at reasonable rates.

PHILLIPS, ALLCARD, and CO.'S IMPERIAL DEAL SAW-MILLS, WENLOCK-ROAD CITY-ROAD, beg to invite the attention of builders, carpenters and the trade, to their well selected stock, consisting of a large assortment of TIMBER, DEALS, PLANKS, and BATTENS, of every description, and thoroughly seasoned. They also have constantly on hand, and ready for immediate use, white and yellow prepared FLOORING BOARDS of all thicknesses, and matched lining cut and planed to a parallel breadth and thickness. And they are enabled to offer all their goods at very moderate prices.

TO ARCHITECTS, BUILDERS, UPHOLSTERERS, AND OTHERS.

WOOD CARVING done in the cheapest and best manner. Estimates given to any amount. Pulpits, reading-desks, altar-rails, stalls, and other church fittings supplied complete. Old carvings restored by J. STALLAN, Wood Carver and Manufacturer, 43, Berwick-street, Soho, London.

JORDAN'S PATENT MACHINE CARVING and MOULDING WORKS for Wood and STONE, Belvedere-road, Lambeth, and 194, Strand.—TAYLOR, WILLIAMS, and JORDAN beg to call the attention of the building community to a new feature of their establishment, and at the same time, to thank their numerous patrons and friends for the very liberal support they have lately experienced, which they assure them and the public, it will be their constant endeavour to deserve, by giving their customers an increasing share of the advantages arising from the constant improvements in the machinery which they have just succeeded in applying to the production of the most intricate carving in Caen and other freestones, and in statuary marble.

T., W., and J. particularly solicit the attention of architects and builders to the fact that, by the use of this machinery, a very large saving, both of time and labour, is effected,—so great, indeed, that in many cases they can deliver a well-finished article in Caen stone for less money than it can be obtained in cement, while their workmanship will, in one case, be found to cause little or no competition with the best kinds of compositions ornamental.—For prices and estimates apply at 194, Strand.

TESTIMONIAL FROM CHARLES BARRY, ESQ.

"Westminster, May 26th, 1848.

"Gentlemen,—In reply to your letter requesting my opinion of your patent Carving Machinery, I have much pleasure in stating, from an experience of more than two years, in its application to the production of the wood carvings of the House of Peers, and other apartments of the New Palace, at Westminster, that I am enabled to make the most favourable report concerning it, and to state that it has more than justified the favourable terms in which I recommended it in 1846 to her Majesty's Commissioners of Woods and Works for adoption.—I remain, Gentlemen, yours faithfully,

"CHARLES BARRY."

Messrs. Taylor, Williams, and Jordan."

ZINC, from the VIEILLE MONTAGNE MINING COMPANY, in the purest state, free from alloy of iron, lead, or sulphur. It is supplied in spelter for brass founders, &c., and in sheets for roofs, sheathing, and roofings of all kinds, and tools of all dimensions. It may be had at the following Agents', who have always a large stock in hand:

London—Messrs. Charles Bevan and Co., Mr. Charles Jack, Mr. William Sharrow.
Birmingham—Mr. John Barrell.
Liverpool—Messrs. E. Zwichbart and Co.
Manchester—Messrs. Richard Johnson and Brother.
Leeds—Messrs. J. G. and T. Heaps.
Hull—Messrs. J. Parker and Sons.
Newcastle-upon-Tyne—Mr. Henderson Plummer.
Leith—Messrs. Robert Anderson and Co.
Glasgow—Messrs. A. G. Kidston and Co.
Bristol—Messrs. Morgan Meacham and Co.
Plymouth—Messrs. Lanyon, Bennett, and Co.
Southampton—Mr. W. J. Lefevre.
Yarmouth—Messrs. John Shelley and Co.

Zinc from 9½ to 24 oz. per square foot is generally used for roofing, which comes at least one-third cheaper than slate coverings; and the ship sheathing, which lasts from five to six years, costs two-thirds cheaper than copper or yellow metal. And if the nails or rivets are made of the Vieille Montagne Zinc, and under the superintendence of Mr. FREDERICK BROWN, the surveyor of the Company (for which no charge whatever is made), a guarantee will be given of its durability.—For further particulars and prices, apply to Mr. H. F. MCNICOLL, General Agent for England, at the Company's Offices, No. 13, Manchester-buildings, Westminster-bridge, London.